

ONE WOMAN'S WORK.

SUCCESS OF THE NOBLE CHARITIES OF MRS. LELAND STANFORD.

How She Has Become Interested in the Education of Poor Children—The Kindergarten Schools She Established in San Francisco.

Every one has heard of the Leland Stanford, Jr., university at Palo Alto, Cal., established by the millionaire senator from that state and his wife in memory of their son who died in his sixteenth year in Rome. Every one in San Francisco knows also of Mrs. Stanford's kindergarten work in that city.



MRS. STANFORD.

"Tell me how this idea of establishing a kindergarten in the slums of San Francisco first occurred to you," I said to Mrs. Stanford.

"It was more than ten years ago," she replied. "That a young lady came to me one day to solicit my help in this kindergarten work which she had already begun in the low quarters of the city, but which she found she was not able to carry on without financial aid. She talked so well and seemed such a bright, intellectual girl and so thoroughly in earnest that at last I asked her how much she would need to carry on the work for a year. She said \$1,000 would be necessary to carry it on as she planned. I told her to go to others and get all she could and then come back to me and I would make up the balance."

"In about three weeks she returned. She had only succeeded in raising twelve dollars. I gave her the first installment of the \$1,000 she wanted and promised to visit the school. My son Leland went with me. I thought I would not go empty handed, so I bought candies, fruit and toys for the children. I had not been in that quarter of the city before, and I never imagined there was anything like the misery and squalor I found there. It was a revelation to me. Oh, I had always lived such a selfish life!"

"I had lived all my life up to that time entirely for my own pleasure, but the experience of that day and the joy expressed by those little children over the insignificant gifts that I had brought them opened my eyes to a phase of life that I did not realize existed, and I thank God that I have never closed them since."

"My dear boy was so happy that day, and enjoyed so much seeing those poor, scantily clothed, poverty pinched babies' delight at their games and exercises. The children were so happy, too, that it made my heart glad. They crowded about me and stroked my gown, and of their own accord thanked me for bringing the 'beautiful things' to them."

"When we came out my boy said, 'Mamma, I think that is the best thing you ever did in your life.'"

"I asked Miss Ramsom to write me through the winter of the success of the enterprise. Whenever one of those letters came Leland would leave anything he was doing to come and listen and learn how the kindergarten was getting on. After a visit to Europe we went again to the school. The children expected us this time and had made great preparations. So we were given quite an entertainment."

"During the short time I was allowed to have my dear boy with me he made this school his chief care. By his own efforts he had accumulated a little money, about \$1,000, which was in the bank in his own name. During his illness I was one day trying to entertain him and said:



"STANFORD RESIDENCE, PALO ALTO. 'I often wonder, darling, what you will do with the money you have in the bank. Have you thought about it?' He turned his sweet face toward me and, taking my hand in his two frail ones, said:

"Mamma, I want you to use that money for me. I want you to find some very poor children who haven't any nice, comfortable homes and can't go to school, and help them with my money." "Since that day," continued Mrs. Stanford, after a little pause, "I have tried in every way to relieve want and suffering, but I have not used my money yet. It is still lying in the bank. I could not bring myself to touch it while I had so much of my own. And yet with all I do so little."

"My whole life," she went on to say, "changed from that hour; my manner of thought changed; my very soul was created anew. But I can never live down those wasted years."

"Eight schools have been established by Mrs. Stanford—six in San Francisco, at the extreme ends of the city in the most disreputable portions, and two in the country. The influence of these ten

years of kindergarten work in the city, not alone on the children but on the neighborhood, is marvelous. The public schools that once looked forward with dread to the influx of pupils from these quarters now receive them with pleasure, so refining has the influence of the kindergarten work been."

Mrs. Sarah Cooper is the superintendent of the city schools, which contain in all about 800 children between the ages of fifteen months and seven years. The largest school is at the corner of Mission and Fourth streets, and contains 164 pupils, with four teachers. Every school is supplied with a washstand, soap and towels, to which the little ones always need to be immediately introduced. But it is surprising to note how quickly a sense of shame and pride is aroused in them, and they somehow manage after a few weeks to have this duty performed for them before they come. After the bath each child is put into a clean apron and given a clean handkerchief, the use of which is of necessity one of the first things taught them."

In every school there is a piano. The singing and marching attracts the children and make them like to come. In almost every instance the little ones learn here for the first time of God, and a deep impression is made on their childish minds. Their faith in the efficacy of prayer is strong. Sometimes they direct their prayers toward Mrs. Stanford, believing from experience that she can easily respond to their requests."

One of the many pretty stories in connection with the work that Mrs. Stanford told me I must repeat, for it illustrates how much good is being done. One day a little boy came to the school. Though evincing the most abject poverty, he had something in his manner and in his clean patched clothes that showed that he was superior to the other children. As the days went by the teacher was more and more impressed with this idea, and called Mrs. Cooper's attention to the boy. She went home with him to see his mother and ascertain their condition. The "home" was a bare and desolate garret, and the mother was a pitiable looking object."

When Mrs. Cooper introduced herself to the poor girl, for she was scarcely more, put her face in her hands and began to sob.

"I am ashamed to have you know my poverty," she said.

In answer to kindly inquiries she said that her husband was the son of a minister in the east. When she married him they made a comfortable living. But after moving to San Francisco he got into bad company, and now he was



THE LATE LELAND STANFORD, JR.

a complete wreck, and all they had to live on was the mere pittance she earned with her needle."

After a few weeks the teacher at the kindergarten was surprised and pleased to observe a decided change in the dress and manner of the boy. He had warm shoes and stockings, a new overcoat, etc., and seemed very happy."

Mrs. Cooper made another call upon the little woman in the garret. This time she was not received with tears.

"Oh, I want to tell you," she said, "what your kindergarten has done for us."

She then told how her boy would come home at night and sing the songs and tell the pretty stories he had learned, and praise the kind lady who had established the school, and say the prayers she had told them her boy had said. The father became interested and encouraged him to tell about the things he learned at school. One night he went with him and put him to bed himself. When he came back he sat down beside his wife, who was sewing by the dim light, instead of going out as was his custom. After watching her a few moments in silence he said, "Do you know we have got one of the smartest and brightest boys in the country, and I have made up my mind that he shall never be ashamed of his father any more." And he kept his resolution."

"That one instance," said Mrs. Stanford, "has repaid me for all I have done."

The school has now become an established institution, and in order that the work may not stop for want of funds after her death Mrs. Stanford has placed \$100,000 in trust with which to carry it on indefinitely."

Mrs. Cooper, who has made the matter a study, has discovered that in the reform schools, houses of correction and prisons not a boy or girl can be found who has ever been under kindergarten training. That fact and the testimony of the public school teachers show the wonderful influence of the simple lessons on the impressionable minds of the children."

The six schools in San Francisco and the two in the country near the home of the Stanfords at Menlo Park, which Mrs. Stanford has recently established and which are under her own personal supervision, cost her \$7,000 a year."

These schools were the first memorial kindergartens established in the world. They by no means represent the whole of Mrs. Stanford's charitable work. There is no charity in California that has not had her aid, and the poor of Washington have reason to respect her kindness of heart. She has this year endowed the orphan asylum at Albany, her native place, with \$100,000, which provides for an infant department. This asylum was established by Mrs. Stanford's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dyer Lathrop.

HELEN M. SMITH.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

A. O. U. W.

W. Warne Wilson, Past Supreme Master Workman.

The name of Bro. W. Warne Wilson, past supreme master workman, is familiar to every member of the A. O. U. W. Of him the Michigan Herald says:

"He was born at Damerham, Wiltshire county, England, on 11th day of November, 1849. He left England when nineteen years of age, and after considerable traveling settled in Detroit in the fall of 1873. He became a member of the order at the institution of Detroit lodge No. 6, on the 1st day of May, 1877, and was elected its first master workman; was elected grand recorder at the semiannual session of the grand lodge, held in August of the same year."

He was made a past grand master workman by the grand lodge at its fourth annual session, 1880; represented the grand lodge of Michigan in the supreme lodge at its eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and fourteenth annual sessions; was appointed a member of the supreme lodge finance committee by Supreme Master Fish at Buffalo in 1883; was reappointed at Toronto by Supreme Master Workman Andrus; was made chairman of said committee by Supreme Master Workman Brooks at Des Moines; and was successively reappointed by Supreme Master Workmen Badgerow and Jordan; was elected supreme overseer at Louisville in 1888, supreme foreman at Omaha in 1889, and supreme master workman at Boston in 1890. He was ordained a deacon in the Protestant Episcopal church on the 10th day of October, 1891, by Bishop Harris, of Michigan, and is one of the clergy at St. John's church, Detroit."

The above biographical sketch seems sterile, cold and inadequate to convey to the minds of our readers any just appreciation of the good work for the order performed by Bro. Wilson in the past fifteen years. During that time it is not saying too much when we make the assertion that nearly every piece of material that has entered into the construction of our A. O. U. W. building bears upon it the mark of Bro. Wilson's handiwork."

KNIGHTS OF HONOR.

Two Assessments for December—The Order in Missouri.

It was welcome news to the members of the order that only two assessments were called for December. Of the 167 deaths in the December call 17 had been paid. This shows a substantial gain since the summer, when there were over \$750,000 in death claims unpaid. With the three assessments which were received Dec. 10, amounting to over \$415,000, the financial condition of the order is better than for years. Supreme Dictator Klotz has earned the thanks of all intelligent Knights of Honor by his unflinching enforcement of the laws and his persistent determination to call enough assessments to pay all claims as they become due. The total benefits paid to Nov. 14 were \$36,324,534.36, the payments for the month being \$415,000."

At the grand lodge of Missouri the grand secretary's report said: The order during the term has not increased much in numbers. July 1, 1890, Missouri had 3,185 members, and on July 1, 1891, 3,335, showing a net gain for two years in this jurisdiction of only 350 members. During that time there were 137 members died, and death benefits to the amount of \$145,500 was paid from the treasury of supreme lodge to beneficiaries in this state. Our increase in the death rate has been greater in proportion than our increase in numbers."

News has been received of the death of Past Grand Dictator W. W. Forest, formerly of Massachusetts, for the last seven years resident in the west. He was grand dictator of Massachusetts in 1883, having served several years in subordinate offices of the grand lodge. He represented Massachusetts in the supreme sessions of 1884 and 1885. He retained membership in Boston lodge to the time of his death."

The order has had a rapid increase in membership during the past year. It now numbers about 140,000 members, of which nearly 18,000 belong to New York state. The order pays about \$3,000,000 annually in death rates."

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

A Pythian Relief Board at Augusta, Helmet Glints.

The Knights of Pythias lodge of Augusta, Ga., has organized a relief board. Each lodge pays into the treasury of the board ten cents per member on its roll. The master of each lodge is authorized to honor the warrant of the president of the board for a sum not exceeding ten cents per member at any time. The officers of the board are president, vice president, secretary and treasurer."

Pennsylvania has nearly 45,000 Knights of Pythias. Illinois Pythians now number about 30,000."

The uniform rank is the finest equipped body of young men in the world. They number about 35,000, outnumbering the United States standing army by 10,000."

The semiannual report of the G. K. of R. and S. of Minnesota records 13 new lodges instituted during the year and 1 suspended. Membership of subordinate lodges June 30, 1891, 4,489."

There are 26 divisions of the Uniformed rank in Tennessee. A new division is being organized at Sacramento."

Foresters. On July 13 last the highest number reached by any court in the order in America was No. 7,996, but within a few weeks Court Mount Morris was given No. 8,000. Comment on the rapid growth of the order is unnecessary."

Active and effective work is being done toward organizing a ladies' branch in the order, to be known as the Companions of the Forest. Mrs. Hochstadter, the wife of the well known brother of that name, is the leading spirit in the movement."

Order of Franklin.

The quarterly report, dated Nov. 14, shows total receipts of \$17,350.93. The amount of insurance written is about \$3,225,500, of which \$600,000 has been called by death, lapse or surrender. The assets of the order are now \$31,600.01."

MASONIC.

Rapid Growth of the Order of the Eastern Star—Notes.

The interest in the Eastern Star is increasing in New England. One chapter was recently instituted in Massachusetts with 144 charter members, and the Masons, in some instances, grant them free use of their halls and in one instance presented the chapter with an elegant regalia and set of jewels. Twelve new chapters were organized in Michigan during the past year. Detroit now has three chapters, namely, Hayward, Keystone and Palestine. The latter has just been chartered."

Bro. John D. Stevenson, past grand master of Masons in California, on Jan. 1, 1891, was ninety-one years of age."

The following salaries are paid in Vermont: Grand master, \$150; grand treasurer, \$75; grand secretary, \$350; grand lecturer, \$75; committee on correspondence, \$100."

The grand chapter of Royal Arch Masons of New York has been in existence ninety-four years."

The grand lodge of England elects only its grand master and grand treasurer. All other officers are appointed by the grand master."

The ladies of Richmond have a Masonic Home Auxiliary association, consisting of 250 members, and doing good charitable work."

A new Masonic hall for Glasgow, Scotland, is spoken of, to cost about \$100,000. The provincial grand master has decided that at least two-thirds of the money must be subscribed before any building operations should be undertaken."

It is a well attested fact, true as wonderful, that Freemasonry is universal—existing in every nation, among all peoples and its mysteries taught in every known language. It is an historic fact that Colonel McKinstry, a Mason and a soldier of the Revolution, was saved by giving a Masonic sign when about to be burned by an Indian tribe under command of the celebrated Mohawk chief, Joseph Brandt, who, though an Indian, was also a Freemason."

The Prince of Wales was initiated into Freemasonry in 1828. In 1890 the rank of the past grand master was bestowed upon him. In 1874 the Marquis of Ripon, grand master, resigned to embrace the religion of the Roman Catholic church. The prince was installed grand master. It is a strange coincidence that on the very day when this event occurred, 137 years previously, the famous bull of Pope Clement XII had been promulgated against Freemasonry."

In New York are 77,923 Master Masons, of which 30,72 per cent. are Royal Arch Masons, 3,99 per cent. join the Council of Royal and Select Masters, and 11.73 per cent. become Knights Templar."

The Art association of the Masonic temple in Philadelphia has completed its magnificent decoration of Norman hall, and its work has been received and approved by the grand lodge."

The Masonic fraternity of Bay City, Mich., soon will have a new Masonic temple costing \$70,000."

Melbourne, Australia, has a Masonic literary association, and the students at the university wish to have a Masonic lodge."

I. O. O. F.

Prosperity of the Order in Chicago. Lodgeroom Echoes.

Of the 57 lodges instituted in Cook county since the introduction of the order into Illinois but 2 have surrendered their charters, namely, Rainbow, No. 400, and Safety, No. 682, and their charters were surrendered for the purpose of consolidation."

Waterloo, Ia., now has a new and complete Odd Fellows' hall, which cost the order about \$20,000 furnished. The income from rents, with free use of the hall for the various branches of the order, is \$1,025. Members of the Rebekah Degree lodges are now required to pay a per capita tax of five cents to aid in defraying the expenses of the state convention and to assist struggling lodges."

The grand encampment of California has reduced the minimum fee for initiation from ten to five dollars."

Cryptic lodge, No. 75, Peekskill, N. Y., realized \$3,000 net from the fair recently given under its auspices. The sum will be used in furnishing the new and commodious rooms of the lodge."

Royal Arcanum.

The national supreme regent of the Royal Arcanum, Hon. Charles F. Loring, who was suddenly stricken down a short time ago by embolism of the leg, or the formation of an arterial clot of blood near the ankle, resulting in the death of the member below the clot, was obliged to undergo amputation of the leg below the knee in order to save his life."

The supreme treasurer reports the receipts in the W. O. B. fund for the three months ending Sept. 30, including balances on hand, as \$66,574.16, and the disbursements \$688,500. The balance Sept. 30 was \$390,574.16; held for delayed claims, \$12,500. The total receipts in the general fund were \$30,199.20; balance on hand at beginning of quarter, \$9,439.97; payments, \$17,366.20; balance on hand Sept. 30, \$22,272.97."

The Oldest Beneficial Society.

The oldest fraternal beneficial society in the world is Count de Winton society, organized in 1778, and is still in existence. The next oldest is the Loyal Evans society, organized in 1358. The register of England reports 89 friendly or beneficial societies in existence that were organized in the Seventeenth century, and over 1,000 such societies that are over fifty years old. In England 10,753 friendly societies are reported, with 7,000,000 members."

I. O. E. B.

There has been collected for a fund in aid of Jerusalem orphan asylum and schools in the Orient \$1,492.20."

A report of the executive committee of the Constitution grand lodge, just published, shows that there are 367 lodges, members, 25,478; deaths during the year, 359; benefits during the year, \$192,440; total amount of funds, \$620,794."

The Universal Order of Security.

The Universal Order of Security has 76 sections in eight states, with a membership of over 5,000, and has a reserve fund of \$79,002.95 loaned on first mortgages and deposited at interest. The Three P's, published in Philadelphia, is the well conducted, handsomely printed official organ of the order."

Knights and Ladies of Honor.

The statement of the relief fund Nov. 14 gives the net liability at \$38,238.87. The estimated December assets are \$50,000."

During September there were 737 initiations, 640 deaths and 600,000 has been raised, 97,351 new certificates issued, 4 new lodges. The membership Oct. 1 was 70,412."

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